UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/6 (Sect. 20)
23 September 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-eighth session

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995*

PART V. REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

Section 20. *Regular programme of technical cooperation*

CONTENTS

		Page
Overview		2
A.	Sectoral advisory services	4
B.	Regional and subregional advisory services	9

* The present document contains section 20 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. The complete proposed programme budget will subsequently be issued in final printed form as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/48/6/Rev.1).

93-50158 (E) 111093 111093

PART V

REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

SECTION 20. REGULAR PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Overview

TABLE 20.1. SUMMARY OF 1994-1995 REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAMME

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	1992-1993 revised appropriation	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1994-1995 estimates*
		Amount	*Percentage*			
A. Sectoral advisory services	24 393.0	(8 427.8)	(34.5)	15 965.2	1 409.6	17 374.8
B. Regional and subregional advisory services	15 753.2	8 427.8	53.4	24 181.0	3 815.2	27 996.2
Total	**40 146.2**	-	-	**40 146.2**	**5 224.8**	**45 371.0**

20.1 The United Nations regular programme of technical cooperation complements assistance available to developing countries under other programmes. The programming and budgetary procedures applicable to the regular programme were established by the General Assembly in its resolution 2514 (XXIV) of 21 November 1969, in which it endorsed the proposals contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1434 (XLVII). The appropriation requested reflects targets to be applied to the major sectors of activity, which are described below. Within the framework of these targets, individual projects are approved to be financed under the regular programme based on governmental requests. Annual reports on the programme and projects implemented are submitted as appropriate to the Governing Council of UNDP.

20.2 In keeping with the guidelines, funding goes to activities with a demonstrated multiplier effect likely to have a significant impact on the development process and which reflect global development policies enunciated by United Nations legislative bodies and also accord with development needs and priorities of individual countries. In particular, the regular programme is to be used for innovative and catalytic activities.

20.3 Within the framework of existing guidelines, individual technical cooperation activities under the regular programme are determined by the nature of requests received from developing countries, the recommendations of intergovernmental legislative and expert bodies, and the approved work programmes.

20.4 The programme, which comprises activities in human rights, development issues and policies, energy, environment, human settlements, food and agriculture, industrial development, international trade and development finance, natural resources, population, public administration and finance, science and technology, social development and humanitarian affairs, statistics, transport, communications and tourism, and disaster mitigation and emergency humanitarian assistance is divided into the following components:

(a) Sectoral advisory services, executed, as appropriate, by the Department for Development Support and Management Services, the Department of Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, the secretariat of UNCTAD, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), the Centre for Human Rights and the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch at Vienna;

(b) Regional and subregional advisory services, executed by the secretariats of ECE, ECA, ECLAC, ESCWA and ESCAP.

20.5 There are three main types of technical cooperation activities, namely, short-term advisory services, field projects and training.

Short-term advisory services

20.6 In response to ad hoc requests from Governments for assistance, technical cooperation in the form of short-term advisory services can be made available under the regular programme in cases when the specific problem can be dealt with on a short-term basis and does not fall within the scope of an already funded project. The main purpose of these services is to provide advice as a basis for immediate government action or, in the case of broader needs, to lay the groundwork for meeting them through the identification and formulation of projects for submission to potential financing sources.

Field projects

20.7 Provision of technical cooperation through field projects may originate either in response to specific government requests or in proposals formulated by the various offices concerned in the context of their approved substantive work programmes to meet global development needs singled out for priority action by United Nations legislative bodies. The resources of the regular programme will not usually be invested in country projects unless such projects are clearly of a pilot and innovative character, the results of which can be given wider application. Field projects will therefore be mainly interregional, designed to test and operationalize new approaches to development needs or to fill gaps where funds from other sources are insufficient to cover areas given high priority by legislative bodies. Different kinds of inputs will be combined in ways to meet best the particular needs involved and to enhance the multiplier function of the regular programme.

Training

20.8 In recognition of the key role of human resources in the development process and the consequent need for adequately trained and qualified personnel at the national level, training activities will receive particular emphasis. While training needs often are addressed through short-term advisory services and field projects, a portion of regular programme resources would be used for specially tailored training responding to needs identified through the experience of the implementing office in technical cooperation activities or mandated by United Nations legislative bodies. This work will be carried out mainly through relatively small group-training activities (for example, seminars and workshops), in areas with a potential multiplier effect, organized for national staff with policy-making, planning and management responsibilities in the sectors described below. Other types of training will also continue, for example, on-the-job training arranged in the context of technical cooperation among developing countries.

* * *

20.9 In its resolution 47/212 B of 6 May 1993, the General Assembly noted that the further restructuring of the Secretariat in the economic and social sectors would, *inter alia*, entail decentralization to the regional commissions, and stressed that such decentralization should be in accordance with the criteria agreed by the Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, and on the basis of clearly identifiable relative advantages.

20.10 As indicated to the General Assembly by the Secretary-General in his report on the revised estimates (A/C.5/47/88), an interdepartmental task force reviewed possible measures to strengthen the functions of the regional commissions. The provision of advisory services and the activities in the field of natural resources and energy were identified as two components of the current work programmes that would especially benefit from a measure of decentralization and corresponding redeployments of resources. The approaches and criteria that have guided the work of the task force are outlined in the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1993 (E/1993/85). The distribution of activities in various areas of natural resources and energy is still under review. As far as advisory services are concerned, based on the recommendations of the task force, a redistribution of the resources currently appropriated under section 12 of the 1992-1993 budget, Regular programme of technical cooperation, is proposed. Concretely, the overall ratio of resources assigned to the regional

commissions under the proposals for section 20, Regular programme of technical cooperation, would increase from approximately 40 to 60 per cent or from 16.7 million dollars in 1992-1993 to 28.0 million dollars in 1994-1995. Taking into account that the overall level of resources under section 20 would, as in previous bienniums, remain at maintenance level, this increase of resources for the regional commissions would result in a corresponding decrease of resources for central programmes.

20.11 The proposed redistribution of resources will also take into account new demands for advisory services in areas previously not covered or inadequately covered in that respect, such as human rights, humanitarian assistance and crime prevention and criminal justice. The distribution of resources for advisory services in the fields of natural resources and energy is subject to further adjustments in the light of the outcome of the ongoing review of possibilities of further decentralization of activities in these two areas. These adjustments will be reflected as appropriate in the report on decentralization to be submitted separately to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session.

20.12 The redeployment of resources to the regional commissions would establish the regional commissions as the principal actors in the provision of advisory services. Accordingly, this section, currently shown under part IV, International cooperation for development, has been transferred to part V, Regional cooperation for development.

A. Sectoral advisory services

20.13 The sectoral advisory services include programmes relating to human rights, global development issues and policies, energy, human settlements, trade and development, population, natural resources, social development, public administration and finance, crime prevention and criminal justice, statistics and emergency humanitarian assistance. The estimated requirements amount to $17,374,800, as shown in table 20.2, and comprise 38.3 per cent of the total resources under section 20. The summary of post requirements for interregional advisers is given in table 20.3.

TABLE 20.2. SUMMARY OF 1994-1995 REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAMME[a]

(Thousands of United States dollars)

		1994-1995 by implementing office							
	1992-1993 revised appropriation	*Department for Development Support and Management Services*	*Department of Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis*	*Department of Humanitarian Affairs*	*Crime prevention*	*UNCTAD*	*Habitat*	*Centre for Human Rights*	*1994-1995 estimates*
1. Global development issues and policies	8 597.2	1 859.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 859.7
2. Trade and development	1 146.9	-	-	-	-	1 209.3	-	-	1 209.3
3. Natural resources	4 415.2	1 534.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 534.0
4. Energy	2 698.2	764.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	764.1
5. Public administration and finance	3 042.3	2 413.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 413.1
6. Human settlements	830.7	-	-	-	-		822.7	-	822.7
7. Humanitarian assistance	-	-	-	1 121.5	-	-	-	-	1 121.5
8. Population	-	-	366.9	-	-	-	-	-	366.9
9. Statistics	1 261.9	-	1 562.8	-	-	-	-	-	1 562.8
10. Social development	736.4[b]	378.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	378.4
11. Crime prevention and criminal justice	368.2	-	-	-	1 347.0	-	-	-	1 347.0
12. Human rights	1 036.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 995.3	3 995.3
13. Transnational corporations	259.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	**24 393.0**	**6 949.3**	**1 929.7**	**1 212.5**	**1 347.0**	**1 209.3**	**822.7**	**3 995.3**	**17 374.8**

[a] The breakdown is subject to change and is shown for indicative purposes only.

[b] Includes programme 25, Global social issues and policies, programme 26, Integration of social groups, and programme 27, Advancement of women, of the medium-term plan.

TABLE 20.3. SUMMARY OF POST REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERREGIONAL ADVISORS[a]

(Thousands of United States dollars)

		1994-1995 by implementing office							
	1992-1993 total	*Department for Development Support and Management Services*	*Department of Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis*	*Department of Humanitarian Affairs*	*Crime Prevention*	*UNCTAD*	*Habitat*	*Centre for Human Rights*	*1994-1995 total*
1. Global development issues and policies	11	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
2. Trade and development	3	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
3. Natural resources	9	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
4. Energy	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
5. Public administration and finance	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
6. Human settlements	4	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
7. Humanitarian assistance	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
8. Population	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
9. Statistics	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
10. Social development	2[b]	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
11. Crime prevention and criminal justice	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
12. Human rights	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
13. Transnational corporations	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	**44**	**15**	**3**	**2**	**2**	**3**	**3**	**2**	**30**

[a] The breakdown is subject to change and is shown for indicative purposes only.

[b] Includes programme 25, Global social issues and policies, programme 26, Integration of social groups, and programme 27, Advancement of women, of the medium-term plan.

1. GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND POLICIES

20.14 The activities in this sector are implemented by the Department for Development Support and Management Services and will be in support of the objectives of the three following subprogrammes of programme 12, Global development issues and policies, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as revised (A/47/6/Rev.1):

8. Integrated development planning and policies
9. Planning and coordination of international cooperation (including country programming)
10. Design and implementation of emerging cross-sectoral programmes

20.15 Advice and training will be provided, at the request of developing countries, to strengthen their capacity to prepare, implement and manage integrated development strategies, policies and plans aimed at achieving economic and social development goals. This will include attention to such areas as short- and long-term perspective planning, structural adjustment and recovery programmes, coordination of external assistance and resource mobilization. Such related issues as financial policy, strengthening national plan-budget harmonization, external aid and debt monitoring, and management systems will also be addressed. Assistance, including assistance in UNDP country programming, will be provided through expertise, training and operation-oriented research aimed at developing improved methodologies and techniques for enhancing the developing countries' capacity for aid coordination. Technical cooperation will be provided to promote a unified approach to economic and social development, integrated rural development, popular participation, women's integration in development, alleviation of sectors of critical poverty, environmental aspects of development, science and technology for development, natural disaster protection and other emerging areas. To ensure an integrated and effective approach, technical cooperation will be provided within the framework of the developing countries' overall economic and social development priorities, policies and plans.

2. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

20.16 The activities in this sector are implemented by UNCTAD and will be in support of the objectives of programme 13, Trade and development, and programme 23, Transnational corporations, of the medium-term plan. The relevant subprogrammes are as follows:

Programme 13

1. International competition and trade policies
6. Economic cooperation among developing countries
8. Enlarged economic spaces, regional integration processes and systemic issues of international trade

Programme 23

3. Strengthening the capacity of host developing countries in dealing with matters relating to transnational corporations

20.17 Advisory and technical support will be provided to technical cooperation activities relating to the establishment of national transparent mechanisms; trade policy reforms; restrictive business practices and competition policy; trade negotiations; and trade and the environment. Support will also be provided for regional and subregional programmes of economic integration and cooperation. The UNCTAD secretariat will contribute to technical cooperation programmes and activities in the area of trade with the objective of enhancing the participation of developing countries and countries undergoing the process of transition to a market economy in the international trading system.

20.18 Furthermore, the UNCTAD secretariat, in cooperation with the regional commissions, will provide technical services aimed at assisting Governments of developing countries to handle effectively the issues that arise in their dealings with transnational corporations. During the biennium 1994-1995, emphasis will continue to be placed on technical cooperation activities in the areas of designing investment policies and laws, negotiating investments agreements and building skills in developing countries in the public and private sectors responsible for policy-making, negotiating or managing foreign investment projects.

3. NATURAL RESOURCES

20.19 Pending the outcome of the ongoing review on decentralization of activities in this sector, the activities will be implemented by the Department for Development Support and Management Services and will be in support of the objectives of the following three subprogrammes of programme 19, Natural resources, of the medium-term plan:

2. Integrated water resources development and management
3. Mineral resources
4. Surveying, mapping and international cooperation in cartography

20.20 Advice and training will be provided to strengthen human resources and institutional capacities of developing countries in the planning and management of their water and mineral resources in the context of sustainable development. This will be done by promoting a multisectoral approach that integrates technological, socio-economic and environmental considerations. Technical cooperation activities will concentrate on the transfer and adaptation of water technologies and the promotion of economic and legal measures to improve efficiency in water use. Identification of financing and investment requirements and the mobilization of resources will be emphasized, as well as availability of information needed for decision-making such as trends, developments and prospects in selected minerals. Particular emphasis will be given to planning and management promoting the transfer of technology and to the effective integration of environmental considerations into mineral resource-related activities. Advice and training will also be provided to enhance capacity in cartography, surveying and mapping (including use of remote-sensing technologies) required for effective planning and management of natural resources.

4. ENERGY

20.21 Pending the outcome of the ongoing review on decentralization of activities in this sector, the activities will be implemented by the Department for Development Support and Management Services and will be in support of the objectives of the two following subprogrammes of programme 20, Energy, of the medium-term plan:

3. Furthering the development and use of new and renewable sources of energy
5. Energy planning and management

20.22 Advice and training will be provided to developing countries for planning and managing the development of indigenous energy resources. Support will be provided to enhance capacity for formulating integrated energy policies and plans to meet development needs effectively. Technical cooperation activities and the provision of advisory services to developing countries for strengthening institutions concerned with energy planning, training of national personnel and the methodological and informational infrastructure for energy planning will increase. Special emphasis will be on assistance to enhance capacity for formulating environmentally sound energy policies and plans, including those related to energy conservation and efficacy. Ways and means of increasing the role of and reliance on new and renewable sources of energy, particularly in view of their potential contribution to environmentally sound energy development and to rural energy development, will receive special attention. Within the context of overall energy planning and management, attention will go to the development and transfer of technology needed for energy exploration and exploitation.

5. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

20.23 The activities in this sector are implemented by the Department for Development Support and Management Services and will be in support of the objectives of the following five subprogrammes of programme 21, Public administration and finance, of the medium-term plan:

2. Effective structural and organizational arrangements and methods for public management and productivity
3. Training and development of human resources for public management
4. Effective budgetary systems and resource mobilization for development
5. Improving public sector financial management
6. Mobilization of financial resources, taxation and entrepreneurship

20.24 During the biennium advice and training will be provided to assist developing countries in meeting increased demands for government services through sound management of all its resources: human, financial and informational. Emerging issues of governance, including both administrative reform issues related to the appropriate role and scope of government and issues relevant to participatory processes such as electoral institutions and mechanisms, will be stressed. Special attention will be given to private sector development, entrepreneurship and enterprise management, and to strengthening capability for financial management, accounting and auditing. Issues that will also be addressed include social and environmental administration, legal frameworks for administrative development and women in management. Human resource implications of governance will receive particular emphasis and will be addressed through assessment of training needs and civil service structure, and through strengthening of institutional training capacity, especially for senior management.

6. HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

20.25 The activities in this sector are implemented by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and will be in support of the objectives of the following two subprogrammes of programme 22, Human settlements, of the medium-term plan:

4. Financial resources
8. Construction sector

20.26 The main objective of technical cooperation activities under this programme is to provide assistance in promoting the development of indigenous building materials and construction industries and to propose strategies to remove obstacles to the flow of resources from global, national and local sources for the development. Emphasis will be given to assistance in mobilizing investments, in financial practices related to human settlement development for low-income groups and in establishing or strengthening financial institutions for human settlement development. Emphasis will also be placed on the utilization of indigenous raw materials, and their processing into building materials as well as on assistance in the field of low-cost construction technology.

7. HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

20.27 The activities in this sector are implemented by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs and will be in support of the objectives of subprogramme 2, Disaster prevention and preparedness, of programme 37, Emergency humanitarian assistance, of the medium-term plan.

20.28 During the biennium emphasis will be placed on the development and refinement of mitigation techniques. These techniques will be disseminated widely by preparing compendiums and manuals, organizing training seminars and workshops, as well as carrying out technical cooperation projects at the national and regional levels. Such technical cooperation activities will include the provision of expertise, the exchange of experience between disaster-prone developing countries, especially within the same region, the provision of training and the granting of fellowships.

8. POPULATION

20.29 The activities in this sector are implemented by the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis and will be in support of the objectives of subprogramme 5, Technical cooperation in population, of programme 18, Population, of the medium-term plan.

20.30 During the biennium advisory services and technical support will be provided to national demographic or other population-related training institutions. Emphasis will be placed on exchanges of national experience among developing countries in the area of demographic and population training; training in interdisciplinary aspects of population; preparation of related guidelines and publications on experiences gained; assistance in setting up training facilities and in arranging for fellowships in the population field; and developing proposals for the implementation of activities on integration of women in development.

9. STATISTICS

20.31 The activities in this sector are implemented by the Department of Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis, and will be in support of the objectives of subprogramme 5, Support for technical cooperation in statistics and statistical data processing, of programme 24, Statistics, of the medium-term plan.

20.32 The objectives are the development of the statistics and statistical capabilities that developing countries need to plan, monitor and direct their economic and social development through the provision of direct advisory services, fellowships, supplies, equipment, statistical training, methodological materials and guidelines, and the substantive support and monitoring of technical cooperation programmes and projects. Another aim will be to help improve the stature and capabilities of national statistical offices by directing the attention of planners and policy makers to useful applications of statistics in developing effective socio-economic programmes and reaching policy decisions.

20.33 Advisory services will be provided to transfer knowledge and experience in specific fields of statistics, in particular demographic statistics, and in relation to the use of computers and informatics. Emphasis will be placed on provision of practical, action-oriented recommendations aimed at contributing to the efforts of developing countries to achieve self-reliance and self-sufficiency in technical and administrative aspects in critical areas of statistics.

10. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

20.34 The activities in this sector are implemented by the Department for Development Support and Management Services and will be mainly in support of the objectives of subprogramme 2, Social policy design, planning and coordination, of programme 25, Global social issues and policies, of the medium-term plan.

20.35 During the biennium advice will be provided to support the implementation of social components of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, with emphasis on strengthening human resources and institutional capacity for the formulation, implementation and monitoring of social strategies, policies and plans. This will include in particular issues such as alleviation of extreme poverty, social dimensions of adjustment, integration of population factors into social planning, social welfare, rural and community development, women's integration in development and integration of vulnerable groups in development.

11. CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

20.36 The activities in this sector are implemented by the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch at Vienna and will be in support of the objectives of subprogramme 1, Operational activities, planning and overall coordination, of programme 29, Crime prevention and criminal justice, of the medium-term plan.

20.37 During the biennium major efforts will focus on the formulation, implementation and evaluation of crime prevention and criminal justice technical cooperation projects, in particular training and education, with the development of requisite material, manuals and curricula, and collaboration with academic institutions and other entities concerned. Emphasis will be given to experimental innovation via pilot and demonstration projects for the upgrading of skills of criminal justice personnel. Advisory services and technical cooperation activities in this respect will be increased.

12. HUMAN RIGHTS

20.38 The activities in this sector are implemented by the Centre for Human Rights and will be in support of the objectives of subprogramme 3, Advisory services and technical cooperation, of programme 35, Promotion and protection of human rights, of the medium-term plan. The United Nations programme of advisory services in the field of human rights was established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 926 (X) of 14 December 1955. The activities aim at promoting respect for human rights through advisory services, seminars, training courses and granting of fellowships administered by the Centre for Human Rights.

20.39 During the biennium 1994-1995, work will focus on provision of practical training and opportunities for exchange of information and experience to government officials or other persons whose functions are related to the promotion and protection of human rights. Advisory services and technical assistance will be provided to developing countries and countries in transition to a market economy in developing national laws in keeping with international standards and strengthening national institutions systems and infrastructures for the promotion and protection of human rights.

B. Regional and subregional advisory services

20.40 The estimates for this component ($27,996,200) comprise 61.7 per cent of the total resources proposed under this section. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2803 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971, provision is made for a system of regional and subregional advisory services for the purpose of assisting developing countries that are members of the regional commissions in solving problems they may encounter in their national development efforts. The services of regional advisers are made available in response to requests from Governments and involve advisory missions on an individual or a joint multidisciplinary basis, with particular attention being paid to the needs of the least developed and other disadvantaged countries in each region. The regional advisers are based at the headquarters of each regional commission and receive the required support from substantive divisions and administrative services of the regional commissions.

Table 20.4 provides a breakdown of resource requirements and table 20.5 shows a summary of post requirements for regional advisers.

20.41 As indicated in the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates (A/C.5/47/88), the regional commissions carry out important information-gathering and socio-economic analysis functions in their respective regions. They have been playing a major role in developing policy on economic integration and in clarifying economic, social, political and environmental issues relating to sustainable development. They thus provide a forum and a network for cooperation among their member States and between them and other States at the technical level. In addition, they are increasingly becoming providers of technical cooperation activities, especially in intersectoral areas and in areas where no other United Nations entity has a comparative advantage.

20.42 Greater recognition of the important contributions that the regional commissions can make, through measures aimed at strengthening their functions and increasing their responsibilities, is an important and integral part of the current restructuring exercise. These measures include arrangements aimed at enhancing their contributions, as the regional arms of a single, integrated United Nations programme in the social and economic field, to the global work of Headquarters departments, as well as specific measures of decentralization.

20.43 The importance of decentralization to the regional level stems from the role and functions assigned to the regional commissions in several General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions. Among the broad responsibilities assigned by those resolutions to the commissions are the following:

(a) To function as the main general economic and social development centres within the United Nations system for their respective regions;

(b) To exercise team leadership and responsibility for coordination and cooperation at the regional level;

(c) To provide inputs for global policy-making processes of the competent United Nations organs and to participate fully in the implementation of the relevant policy and programme decisions taken by those organs;

(d) To participate actively in operational activities, particularly as regards subregional, regional and interregional projects of an intersectoral nature;

(e) To assist in strengthening regional cooperation and help promote effective interregional cooperation.

20.44 In defining these responsibilities, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council were mindful of the comparative advantages that the commissions enjoy in such areas as information gathering, monitoring economic developments and promoting cooperation with and among their member Governments, including the provision of technical cooperation and training facilities. These comparative advantages arise, *inter alia*, from their proximity to member Governments, their consequent ability to appreciate changing or emerging requirements, their accumulated expertise and experience concerning the countries of the region, which is not available elsewhere in the Organization, and their ability to offer, by virtue of the involvement in their work of all countries of their respective regions, a comprehensive framework for regional cooperation. As such, they point to the Commissions as the most suitable sources for the provision of advisory services on a broader scale than they have so far been enabled to extend, as proposed below.

TABLE 20.4. SUMMARY OF 1994-1995 REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAMME[a,b]

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	1992-1993 revised appropriation	1994-1995 by implementing office					1994-1995 estimates
		ECA	ECE	ECLAC	ESCWA	ESCAP	
1. Development issues and policies	5 698.6	2 220.7	-	2 867.9	451.4	1 287.2	6 827.2
2. Food and agriculture	866.5	368.0	351.3	-	451.6	-	1 170.9
3. Environment	662.9	738.7	351.3	-	438.8	327.0	1 855.8
4. Human settlements	-	-	351.3	-	-	327.0	678.3
5. Energy	915.8	738.5	351.3	395.7	446.2	677.8	2 609.5
6. Industrial development	1 225.2	798.9	351.3	359.8	444.0	299.2	2 253.2
7. International trade	1 183.6	370.9	610.3	914.5	-	942.0	2 837.7
8. Public administration	635.4	736.5	-	-	-	-	736.5
9. Natural resources	595.1	370.9	-	395.7	806.4	675.3	2 248.3
10. Social development[c]	844.1	370.9	-	395.7	438.6	616.9	1 822.1
11. Statistics	1 256.6	729.8	351.3	-	894.7	349.6	2 325.4
12. Transport and communications	1 523.6	739.1	702.9	-	427.2	323.3	2 192.5
13. Science and technology	345.8	-	-	-	438.8	-	438.8
Total	**15 753.2**	**8 182.9**	**3 421.0**	**5 329.3**	**5 237.7**	**5 825.3**	**27 996.2**

[a] The breakdown is subject to change and is shown for indicative purposes only.

[b] The titles of subprogrammes are indicated for purposes of comparison only because, in accordance with the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as revised by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session (A/47/6/Rev.1), some regional commissions have a different subprogramme structure.

[c] Includes subprogramme 8, Population, of programme 33, Regional cooperation for development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the medium-term plan.

TABLE 20.5. SUMMARY OF POST REQUIREMENTS FOR REGIONAL ADVISORS[a,b]

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	1992-1993 total	1994-1995 by implementing office					1994-1995 total
		ECA	ECE	ECLAC	ESCWA	ESCAP	
1. Development issues and policies	8	6	-	6	1	3	16
2. Food and agriculture	3	1	1	-	1	-	3
3. Environment	2	2	1	-	1	1	5
4. Human settlements	-	-	1	-	-	1	2
5. Energy	3	2	1	1	1	1	6
6. Industrial development	3	2	1	1	1	1	6
7. International trade	5	1	2	3	-	3	9
8. Public administration	2	2	-	-	-	-	2
9. Natural resources	2	1	-	1	2	2	6
10. Social development[c]	3	1	-	1[c]	1	2	5
11. Statistics	4	2	1	-	2	1	6
12. Transport and communications	5	2	2	-	1	1	6
13. Science and technology	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Total	**41**	**22**	**10**	**13**	**12**	**16**	**73**

[a] The breakdown is subject to change and is shown for indicative purposes only.

[b] The titles of subprogrammes are indicated for purposes of comparison only because, in accordance with the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as revised by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session (A/47/6/Rev.1), some regional commissions have a different subprogramme structure.

[c] Includes subprogramme 8, Population, of programme 33, Regional cooperation for development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the medium-term plan.

1. REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

20.45 Within the regular programme of technical cooperation, the activities of ECA are aimed at meeting the objectives of Programme 30, Regional cooperation for development in Africa, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as revised (A/47/6/Rev.1), by assisting developing countries of the region to solve their economic and technological problems by providing advisory services upon request and by organizing workshops.

20.46 In the context of subprogramme 1, Development issues and policies, of programme 30, emphasis will be given to assistance in the preparation, implementation and monitoring of programmes that would lead to the realization of objectives of structural adjustment, socio-economic transformation and sustainable development in Africa. Advisory services and training will also be provided in respect of development finance, debt policy and resource flows.

20.47 Activities in connection with subprogramme 2, Trade, regional economic cooperation and integration, will focus on assistance to member countries and their intergovernmental economic groupings and institutions on questions related to economic cooperation and integration; on the strengthening of existing institutions for subregional trade cooperation and the enhancement of Africa's trade sector. In addition the subprogramme will provide support to the five multinational programming and operational centres (MULPOCs).

20.48 Under subprogramme 3, Poverty alleviation through sustainable development, efforts will be directed at assisting member countries in the formulation and implementation of appropriate policies, plans and programmes relating to food production, food security and agricultural support services, environment and population. Advisory services will be provided in the development of capabilities for exploration, exploitation and management of the living and non-living resources of the sea.

20.49 Under subprogramme 4, Development, administration and management, emphasis will be given to advisory services, training courses, seminars and workshops for improving the performance of the public sector, carrying out privatization and strengthening public enterprise and public financial management. Technical assistance will be provided to member countries to support their efforts in the fields of institutional reform and structural transformation.

20.50 Under subprogramme 5, Human resource development and social transformation, work will concentrate on assistance to member countries in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of human resource development policies and plans; and of effective and relevant social policies, programmes and services, including those in the field of crime prevention and drug control. In that respect advisory services will be provided to national and regional organizations, associations, institutions and coordinating bodies.

20.51 Under subprogramme 6, Statistical and information systems development, assistance will focus on building of institutional and technical capabilities of member countries in applying the revised United Nations system of national accounts and on organization and management of data-processing and information systems development.

20.52 Under subprogramme 7, Natural resources and energy development, efforts will concentrate on the formulation of integrated energy policies and integrating those policies into general socio-economic development. Advisory services will be provided in improving national capabilities for exploration and utilization of surface water and groundwater resources, as well as in promoting regional and subregional cooperation in the use of shared water resources.

20.53 In the context of subprogramme 8, Infrastructural and structural transformation, emphasis will be placed on activities aimed at maintaining, rehabilitating and upgrading transport and communication infrastructures; developing and promoting capabilities for the formulation of industrial policies, including integration of small-scale industries into the development process, plans and strategies; formulating technology policies in line with the requirements for overall socio-economic development; and training of the required industrial, science and technology personnel for technology assessment, transfer, development and application.

20.54 Under subprogramme 9, Women in development, efforts will be concentrated on promoting women's full participation in economic planning and implementation and formulation of programmes to eradicate discrimination on grounds of sex and to promote equal employment opportunities and equitable remuneration.

2. REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

20.55 The activities of ESCAP within the regular programme of technical cooperation are aimed at meeting the objectives of programme 31, Regional cooperation for development in Asia and the Pacific, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as revised (A/47/6/Rev.1), through the provision of advisory services to member countries.

20.56 The revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 reoriented the programme of work of ESCAP along thematic lines, concentrating on regional economic cooperation, environment and sustainable development, poverty alleviation, social development, transport and communications, statistics and problems of least developed, land-locked and island developing countries.

20.57 Under subprogramme 1, Regional economic cooperation, emphasis will be placed on (a) macroeconomic management and economic reforms, including fiscal, monetary, exchange rate and trade policies, and preparation of national strategic development plans for least developed, land-locked and island developing countries; (b) strengthening national capabilities in technology transfer and investment promotion, development of appropriate rules and regulations on technology acquisition and foreign investment, promotion of bilateral, subregional and regional cooperation particularly among small and medium-sized industries; and (c) development of trade policy, negotiations and trade promotion, reform by land-locked countries of their transit trade systems and drafting trade treaties.

20.58 Under subprogramme 2, The environment and sustainable development, the work will concentrate on (a) review of national policies and environment-related legislation and laws, institution-building for environmental management, preparation of national guidelines for proper environment management and the incorporation of environmental considerations into national development plans and projects; (b) promoting integrated water resource development and management, including formulation and implementation of master water plans, assessment of water resources and protection of those resources and aquatic ecosystems, development of groundwater resources, support to member countries in planning for establishing multidisciplinary infrastructure for remote-sensing and geographic information systems, natural disaster reduction, development of mineral policy and mineral economies; and (c) technical assistance and advisory services on energy data management, sectoral energy demand analysis, energy modelling and forecasting, as well as on non-conventional sources of energy.

20.59 Under subprogramme 3, Poverty alleviation through economic growth and social development, activities will focus on (a) improving the quality of life in human settlements, strengthening institutions managing human settlement programmes and formulation of national action plans on urbanization; (b) strengthening national efforts aimed at the formulation and implementation of integrated population and development policies and programmes, and assistance in the demographic analysis of the 1990 round of population census data; (c) formulation of policies and programmes for social development, monitoring and evaluation of development programmes with special emphasis on their impact on specific disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in society, and strengthening national capabilities in the field of social development; and (d) reviewing and formulating policies to integrate women's concerns in all aspects of development planning through the promotion of appropriate and effective policies and strategies for planning the advancement of women.

20.60 In the context of subprogramme 4, Transport and communications, emphasis will be placed on the development and maintenance of ports and harbour facilities, and on the implementation of the regional action programme for Phase II of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1992-1996.

20.61 Under subprogramme 5, Statistics, efforts will concentrate on assistance in implementing the revised United Nations system of national accounts and in developing national capabilities in the field of social statistics.

3. REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT IN EUROPE

20.62 In 1992-1993, ECE carried out technical cooperation activities in the areas of transport, communications and tourism.

20.63 Owing to substantially changed circumstances in the region, following the disintegration of the former Soviet Union and of the former Yugoslavia, requests for assistance by the new countries of the region in terms of short-term advisory services, field projects and training have greatly increased. Those demands have grown well beyond transport-related activities and now extend to 9 out of the 10 subprogrammes of programme 32, Regional cooperation for development in Europe, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as revised (A/47/6/Rev.1).

20.64 Under subprogramme 1, Environment, emphasis will be placed on activities related to environmental impact assessment, including industrial accidents; implementation of relevant international conventions; development and servicing of international coordinating centres or programmes at regional or subregional levels; and training and capacity-building, in particular in countries in transition to a market economy, on specific issues related to the conventions.

20.65 Under subprogramme 2, Transport, work will concentrate on advising and assisting countries in transition to a market economy in formulating and implementing coordinated and homogeneous transport and communication policies, with particular emphasis on such areas as infrastructure planning, combined transport, road traffic safety and transport of dangerous goods. Particular attention will be given to assisting those member countries facing major structural changes in developing their transport systems and infrastructures in line with recommendations, resolutions and international agreements and conventions elaborated in the framework of the United Nations/ECE Inland Transport Committee, across the spectrum of inland transport modes (road, rail, inland water) and of the relevant aspects (technical, legal, economic) to be dealt with in each mode.

20.66 Under subprogramme 3, Statistics, emphasis will be placed on meeting demands for expert advice on the implementation of the revised United Nations system of national accounts, particularly from the countries in transition to a market economy. Technical advice will also be given to enable these countries to establish the flow and collection of data required in decision-making and for economic analysis.

20.67 Under subprogramme 4, Trade facilitation, the focus will be on providing technical assistance and advisory services to the countries in transition to market economy in developing national capacities and procedures for the diffusion of contemporary standards and techniques (including electronic data interchange) for the conduct of business transactions in order to facilitate the integration of the economies of those countries into the world economy and to heighten their competitiveness.

20.68 Under subprogramme 6, Energy, work will centre on providing a more permanent, region-wide and intensive exchange of information on gas, coal and electric power industry issues (e.g. tariff-design, regulations concerning the industry's activities in the market economies, cost-effective management, profit centres, etc.) between countries in transition to market economy and other countries of the region at both the governmental and non-governmental levels.

20.69 Under subprogramme 7, Development of international trade, emphasis will be placed on providing the countries in transition to a market economy with advisory services relating to policies and measures designed to encourage inward flows of foreign direct investment and related measures to stimulate foreign participation in privatization and economic and social policy measures designed to foster the development of small and medium-sized enterprises.

20.70 Under subprogramme 8, Industry and technology, work will be concentrated on formulating proposals for coherent national industrial policies and strategies, particularly for the countries in transition to a market economy; elaborating the necessary legislative, regulatory and institutional framework for industrial development; and initiating proposals for the development of new industrial policy programmes. Assistance will also be provided in the context of restructuring and privatization of state enterprises.

20.71 Under subprogramme 9, Agriculture and timber, emphasis will be given to assisting countries in transition to a market economy, in setting up appropriate legislation and regulations for sustainable development of the food, agriculture and timber sectors in the market framework, and to devising efficient public and private structures for the management and support of production and marketing activities.

20.72 Under subprogramme 10, Human settlements, emphasis will be on developing a network for international cooperation to assist countries in transition to a market economy with such practical aspects as privatization and financing of housing and establishment of cadastral and land registration systems. Work will also be centred on human settlement policies and strategies, managerial tools and techniques to promote sustainable settlement development with economical use of resources, and assisting specific multidisciplinary actions in that field.

4. REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

20.73 ECLAC provides technical assistance and regional advisory services to member countries of the region in the areas of economic development, industrial development, energy, natural resources, international trade and population in the context of programme 33, Regional cooperation for development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as revised (A/47/6/Rev.1).

20.74 Under subprogramme 2, Economic development, emphasis will be placed on systematic analysis of development strategies, the formulation of economic policies aimed at achieving changes in production patterns in the context of social equity and the design of fiscal policies in the context of economic stabilization. Technical assistance will also be provided in order to receive timely and systematic information on country and regional economic trends and to analyse structural changes taking place in Latin American and Caribbean economies.

20.75 Under subprogramme 4, Industrial, scientific and technological development, work will focus on designing methodologies adapted to specific regional and country situations to develop national or sectoral industrial and technological strategies and policies that are consistent with member countries' overall development objectives, giving priority to matters relating to the strengthening of their technological capacities and the enhancement of their international competitiveness.

20.76 Under subprogramme 5, International trade and development finance, the activities will aim at evaluating sources of action and suggesting ways of addressing policy options in the fields of trade and external financing available to the countries of the region; monitoring and evaluating relevant regional, bilateral and multilateral trade negotiations primarily for the purpose of suggesting guidelines for coordinated action to strengthen the region's bargaining power. Activities will also focus on the analysis of trade and financial reforms in Latin America and the Caribbean and their impact in terms of changing production patterns and social equity. Special attention will be devoted to assessing the adverse effects of protectionist tendencies with a view to improving the region's ability to negotiate the elimination of barriers to its exports.

20.77 Under subprogramme 6, Natural resources and energy, emphasis will be given to natural resource management, sustainable resource development and appraisal of energy resources. Assistance will be provided to member countries in order to conduct a number of studies on the management of mineral and water resources, production of and trade in mining products and on the relationship between the region's mining and manufacturing sectors.

20.78 Under subprogramme 8, Population, the activities will concentrate on the elaboration of socio-demographic studies and on assisting member countries in increasing their national self-sufficiency in the area of population studies and analyses.

5. REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT IN WESTERN ASIA

20.79 In the context of programme 34, Regional cooperation for development in Western Asia, of the medium-term plan, as revised (A/47/6/Rev.1), ESCWA provides technical assistance and regional advisory services to member States of the region in the areas of food and agriculture, development planning, environment, industrial development, natural resources, energy, science and technology, social development, statistics and transport and communications.

20.80 Under subprogramme 1, Food and agriculture, work will concentrate on assistance to the member countries in rural rehabilitation and in promotion of efficient agricultural planning policy analysis.

20.81 Under subprogramme 2, Development issues and policies, emphasis will be placed on assistance to member countries in their efforts to achieve harmonization and coordination of their plans, programmes and policies.

20.82 Under subprogramme 3, Environment, emphasis will be placed on assistance in dealing with environmental problems, such as climatic change, land degradation, industrial pollution and environmentally hazardous waste.

20.83 Under subprogramme 5, Industrial development, work will focus on identification, formulation and approval of industrial development projects for regional and subregional joint ventures, as well as application of advanced technologies such as micro-electronics and biotechnology.

20.84 Under subprogramme 7, Natural resources, emphasis will be given to conducting studies and formulating programmes in the area of surface water in order to overcome the problems in sharing the available water resources in the region and to enhance their management at the regional and national level; activities will also focus on the evaluation and assessment of the mineral potential in the region and on feasibility studies of mineral projects.

20.85 Under subprogramme 8, Energy issues, emphasis will be placed on matters pertaining to the development of renewable sources of energy, including policy planning, promotion of the efficient use of energy, assessment of existing technologies, project identification and formulation, and development of alternative and conventional sources of energy.

20.86 Under subprogramme 11, Science and technology, efforts will be directed at conducting studies to assess the implication of technological developments for the region with emphasis on measures and mechanisms for strengthening scientific and technological capabilities of the member countries.

20.87 Emphasis under subprogramme 12, Social development and welfare, will be placed on assistance to Governments in improving social planning and social monitoring methodologies, enhancing the optimal use and development of human resources, upgrading vocational skills and mapping social development problems.

20.88 Under subprogramme 14, Statistics, efforts will be directed at enabling member States to apply the revised system of national accounts and international economic classifications, to develop and update their main economic statistics, to design and conduct integrated household surveys, and to organize training programmes.

20.89 Under subprogramme 15, Transport and communications, emphasis will be given to activities in connection with the Transport and Communications Decade for Western Asia and to planning and development of regional transport networks.